

MAR NEWS

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May 16, 1975

Arson Causes Hall Fire

Arson is suspected to be the cause of the fire at Marple Newtown High School on April 30, according to Newtown Square First Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Greer.

School administrators found burning bottles, books, and other debris in the vent near the auditorium stairs. Several students claimed that the vent had been partly open for long periods of time and was used as a trash container.

A book salesman from Houghton-Mifflin Company discovered the fire. The salesman notified students Jon Rodman, Jon Orlando, and Student Council President

Joe Noce of the fire. Rodman used a fire extinguisher on the fire while Noce pulled the alarm. The school was evacuated.

Newtown's Fire Chief George Mackey approximated \$300 worth of damage. The vent cover must be replaced and the motor inside rewired, but the rest of the ventilation system was not affected.

Fire trucks from both Newtown Square and Broomall appeared on the scene, but mainly as a precaution, Mackey commented. Had the fire spread through the ventilation system, severe damage could have occurred, he added.



Firemen enter school to extinguish vent fire.

School Advisory Board Meets With Capriotti

Smoking privileges should be reevaluated each year, Principal William C. Capriotti said at a recent Student Advisory Board meeting.

The Student Advisory Board, composed of a bi-monthly rotation of MN students, discussed gym towels, smoking areas, girls' rooms, class cutting, and study halls with Capriotti May 2.

Board members complained that Mr. Lou Bonder, physical education teacher, randomly opened gym lockers and confiscated locks and personal items when school towels were found in the students' gym lockers.

Students complained that cafeteria duty is not effective discipline. They suggested that making rule offenders clean up bathrooms and smoking areas would act as a stronger deterrent. One student re-

commended a fine for student and teacher smoking violations.

The Board agreed that smoking in the girls' rooms is a major problem and that a woman administrator is needed.

Capriotti felt strongly about the use of hall passes and advocated a minimum class attendance in order to pass a course.

Students on the Board favored turning the Learning Resource Center into a student lounge.

Two kinds of study halls were recommended: a quiet one for studying, and a lounge for socializing. When students suggested open study halls Capriotti cited past failures of that system.

The Student Activity Board also suggested the addition of a student School Board member.

Towel Stealing Means Suspension

Stealing school towels may be punished by suspension, according to Physical Education Department Head Lou Bonder. Nine to twelve dozen school towels have been stolen in the past three months, Bonder says.

Bonder and a custodian make routine searches of gym lockers to check for school towels. If towels are found, Bonder opens the lock in the presence of two students and takes the student's possessions and lock into his office for safekeeping.

First offenders receive a warning, which deters most students from stealing. Second and third-

time stealers risk suspension. Parents are notified in cases of repeaters. All confiscated property, excluding towels, is returned.

First, "students do not have the right to steal towels," according to Bonder, who feels that the prevention of towel-stealing justifies opening student lockers. Second, Bonder does not think that opening students' lockers is an invasion of privacy and a violation of students' rights.

Because of the abuse of this privilege, there will be towel service only for the swimming classes next year.

Do We Need A Change In Election Format?

Once more the wheels of student government have turned, and a new Student Council administration will be taking office within four months.

With the election, the shortcomings of the entire election process become readily apparent. These very apparent faults of the system indicate a need for a change in procedure and attitudes.

Basically Student Council elections can be described in two words---popularity poll. There is no other phrase to describe the elections. The student voter has little to base his choices on. Merit and ability take back seats to popularity. This is evident in two forms---manipulation of key groups of voters and sensationalism.

Manipulation of voting blocks plays a key factor in elections. For example, Erewon High has a student population of one thousand kids. Five candidates are running for office. Under normal circumstances, the vote margin between the candidates would be relatively close; one winning within a small margin.

But if Candidate X can gain control of the Erewon Truffle-Sniffing Club with a membership of 190 kids, he practically has the election in his pocket. With the remaining votes dates, X can split between the five candidates, X should win easily.

Erewon High exists here at Marple Newtown. If an individual gains control of certain large groups or clubs, he is on an express train to victory, especially since a few extra votes can change the outcome.

In a race with four candidates, a person could win with just twenty-seven percent of the votes. That is hardly a representative president.

Sensationalism is an attempt used to ingratiate and gain immediate popularity. Slogans like "If you elect me, money will be falling from the sky," accompanied by floating facsimiles of currency tend to pull in votes like a magnet attracting nails.

A similar method of voter attraction is the appeal to great names. "A vote for me is a vote for the Flyers!" is a prime example. What kind of job would the Flyers do as Business Vice-President?

What can be done about sensationalism? Unfortunately very little since a candidate cannot be told that his campaign cannot be better than his opponents.

One way to get more representative officers is to have a primary. This would eliminate all but two candidates. For the final choice, students would choose carefully between the two individuals.

This would reduce the influence of the voting blocks and provide a president elected by at least fifty-one percent of the votes. This president would be definitely more representative than one elected by twenty-seven percent of the voters.

Art Coren

Students Need Guts

Dear Editor,

Being a graduating senior there are many memories I will carry with me.

The first that comes to mind is not being able to use the girls room because either there was too much smoke or because there

weren't any facilities available worth using.

Another fond recollection is that of classroom situation at Marple. Some teachers seem to think that they can manipulate their students as if they were

Why Eat in Bathroom?

Girls' lavatories at MN disgust many female students. They are also health and fire hazards. Smoking lounges are not utilized by most of the female smokers here. This is evidenced by the huge amount of trash and cigarette butts in sinks, toilets, and on floors.

A typical scene in many girls' lavatories shows one to 20 girls smoking and talking. They can be found

to cope with this problem. The possibility of a female administrator, the best solution, seems slight in the near future. The addition of lavatory matrons would not only create a prison-like atmosphere but also would be another financial burden for the school district.

The solution to the problem lies with female faculty. They could be assigned to a period of lavatory duty occasionally. This does not mean that they would spend the entire period in the lavatory, but that they would make one or two periodic checks. A few teachers already do this.

If smokers knew they could be caught and suspended, they would refrain from using the girls lavatories for smoking. As it is now, the smoking rule is just a farce to most female smokers.

Sherri McCandless



there at any time of the day and more so during lunch periods. During lunch periods, girls' lavatories also become mini-cafeterias. In an advanced society such as ours, it is sad to see that some people don't know the sanitary reasons for not eating in a lavatory. Anyone wishing to use a lavatory for its intended purpose is greeted with stares of disbelief.

Measures must be taken

MAR NEWS

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Opinions

Revise Cut Slip System

It has been obvious to many students, faculty members and, hopefully to some administrators that the implementation of the cut slip system has had many negative effects and few, if any, positive ones.

Instead of cutting one class, students now cut the whole day. Many cutting students roam the halls or hide in lavatories, resource centers, the library, and the cafeteria.

Certain administrators now spend much of their time doing paper work that is needless and prevents them from dealing with more important problems.

Students who cut may not learn much academically, but they become masters of deception and glib talkers. Cut slip collectors will add or delete names of their own accord or at the request of a friend. Slips can be lost or written by students to help their friends.

This cut slip system causes problems and does not solve the ones it was meant to remedy.

Class cutting could be deterred by imposing a maximum number of one day absences from class. Students who accumulate more than five one-day absences for a course would be dropped from that course. Only medical certificates would be accepted as excuses.

Elaborate systems of paperwork only teach students to "beat the system." Punishments and suspensions of privileges hurt innocent students and increase resentment of the school.

Giving students responsibility would encourage ri-

tivity and prepare them to cope with life after school whether they go on to work or college.

Cindy Ryskamp

School Plans Award Assembly

Scholarship recognition awards will be presented by Principal William C. Captiotti to deserving seniors at the Senior Awards Assembly May 27, and at graduation June 12.

Most awards will go to seniors selected by specific organizations. The Boy and Girl of the Year Awards, given by the Rotary Club and the Marple Jr. Women's Club, are open only to those seniors who have won Boy or Girl of the Month awards during the year.

The Marple Township Women's Club award is given annually to a student selected by the faculty. Representatives of each department nominate candidates. Recipients are determined by a total faculty vote.

The \$1500 MNEA four year college scholarship will be given to a senior selected by teachers.

Several changes in awards are being made this year. Due to insufficient funding the PTO will be giving only recognition awards.

Other awards usually

News Briefs

No School June 2

Club Selects Leaders

No school will be held on Monday, June 2 because of an in-service day for teachers. In a unanimous vote, the school board decided to give students one more day off to complete the 180-day school calendar.

Broomall and Newtown Square Rotary Clubs have selected Peter Famiglio, Doug Alkema, Andrew Lee, and Steve Matt to attend Tomorrow's Leaders Conference June 22-29.

Richard Gorberg and Ronald Cohen received certificates of participation for leading seminars at the First Annual High School Student Psychology Convention on April 26 at Beaver College. Gorberg demonstrated an eye-hand coordination device, and Cohen displayed an ESP testing machine. One hundred and fifteen teachers, professors, and students from the tri-state area attended the seminar.

Congratulations to the new Student Council officers: President Mark Salwitz, Business Vice President Mike Stone, Executive Vice President Karvn Alston, Treasurer Steve Videon, Recording Secretary Debbie Hayes, Corresponding Secretary Lynn Matchica, and Parliamentarian Wendy Pearce.

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Letter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2
machines. Instead of realizing and accepting the fact that we are growing, young, and have ideas of our own, they try to force their views on us.

Many teachers never listen to us. So many times I've raised my hand enthusiastically about something I wanted to disagree with and went unnoticed. If I would say what I had on my mind without raising my hand I would be told to "shut up"!!

Respect????!! Where has it gone? I'll tell you where it is; it's locked up in teachers' desks where they keep it safe and use it on students who will submit to their will. I can't understand how teachers can expect to get respect from students if they don't even bother to give them a chance.

A big problem at MN this year has been vandalism. In my opinion, vandals destroy what they resent. Their actions are outbreaks of inner frustration. They are saying what they want in the only way they'll be noticed. This doesn't apply to all vandals because some do it just to get attention, but most of them are the victims of years of repression.

The future of MN lies in the hands of the upcoming students. If they subject themselves to the present philosophy then they'll never get anywhere. I pray they have the "guts" to stand up for what they want and to be able to learn in a suitable environment.

An Unrecognized Senior

Awards

given at graduation will be presented at the Senior Awards assembly, while the National Merit Scholarship Awards, usually granted at the assembly, will be presented at graduation.

"As a school of this size, MN's awards should be bigger and better," Ms. Clarice Jardine, awards committee chairperson said. Ms. Jardine asked Language, Music, Home Economics, and English departments to consider establishing awards in their respective areas for this year's seniors.

"Your Song" Set For Tonight

"Your Song", the Junior Prom theme, will set the mood of the Junior Prom at the Valley Forge Hilton at 7:00 tonight which features solo guitarist Bill Sherman and Maytrix, a professional group.

Dinner, including roast breast of chicken, will be served at 8:00. Danish and coffee will be served later in the evening. Girls will be able to take

home part of the table centerpieces consisting of live plants. Each girl will also receive a prom key at the door.

Two hundred couples are expected, according to Marc Orlando. The price is \$25 per couple. Semi-formal dress will cut down additional expenses.

The prom officially ends at midnight.

Two Groups Perform June 6

Two rock groups and a magician will perform at the Senior Prom at the Sheraton Inn in Valley Forge on June 6, Senior Class Secretary Sue Paul says.

The two musical groups featured will be "Cyclic Blowfield" and "Daybreak." This year's theme is the album "Days of Future Past"

by "The Moody Blues."

A chicken dinner will be served from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m. and a buffet breakfast from 3:00 to 5:00 a.m.

Ann Kolson, a reporter from the Philadelphia Inquirer, will attend the prom and write a feature article on it.

Classes Attend Earth Week

Earth Week was an overall success, Nancy Kotz, President of the Protect Your Environment Club (PYE) and coordinator of this year's Earth Week events said.

Participation was greater than expected. Many classes attended speaker presentations.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, The Environmental Protection Agency, The Nuclear Power, The Philadelphia Clean Air Council and several other environmental groups spoke during third and ninth periods, April 21-25. Several speakers remarked that students at MN are shielded from the air and water pollution problems of the big cities and take good environment for granted.

The PYE Club received approximately 200 elementary school posters awarding prizes of \$5 and \$15 to the three best. The remaining posters were exhibited in the library.

Everybody loves a winner.

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Primarily Cuts & Color



Donna Moyer, showing her winning form in victory against Radnor.

Trackmen Capture 4th at Delco

Marple trackmen captured fourth place at the Delco Championships Friday and Saturday, May 2 and 3.

Highlighting the brilliant team effort were Jeff

Carruthers, who took a second in the long and triple jump and a third in the high jump; Jim Clelland, who took third in the two-mile run in record-breaking time; Tom Wilson, who took a first in pole vault; and the 880 yd relay of Bob Royston, Mike Hanacek, Paul Sperry, and Steve Michaels, who took third.

Other medalists and finalists were:

100 yd. dash
4th Steve Michaels
6th Paul Sperry
120 High Hurdles
4th Dave Chaundet
330 Int. Hurdles
6th Dave Chaundet
Shot Put
5th Mark Grothman
High Jump
4th Mark Grothman

This year the team did quite well as a whole, rising 3 places over last years' 7th place finish. MN ended with 36 points, behind Chester (89), Ridley (57), and Bonner (43).

Candidate Writes and Chews Gum

After sitting through what seemed like eons of speeches for various student offices, speeches invariably made by students who have run for the same office six times in a row and lost those same six times, I have come to one decision about those who vie for the office of secretary. They all use practically the same speech, and use it every year. Listen next time you go to an election assembly, and see if the candidates for secretary don't use a speech similar to this one:

"Hi. My name is _____, and, as you know, I'm run-

ning for the office of secretary. I have all the qualifications needed in this job. I can chew gum and write, sometimes at once, and I can tell time, but only the 'o'clocks' and the 'thirties'. I have nice legs and go steady with a jock. I served last year as a student council member, and the year before that I was blackboard monitor. I would just love to be your secretary- oops! (giggle)- I mean secretary, and I know I could do a good job- so remember, vote for me, _____, and for a good time: EL6-0600. Thank you. (giggle)"

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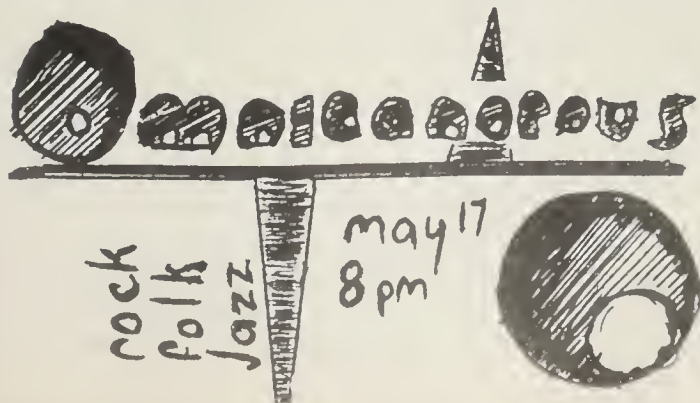
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Golfers Chip At Title

This year's golf team is 4-1, a great start for most teams, yet a disappointing one for Coach Allan Jones and crew. The lone loss came at the hands of Conestoga-costing MN the league title. The team should be able to bounce back and win the rest of their matches, but the Conestoga defeat will leave a bitter taste in their mouth for weeks.

The varsity team includes Garv Doran, Dave McManus, Don Speiller, Randy Stutman, Mark Seigal, John Elicker, and Vince Tobash. All home matches are played at White Manor Country Club in Edgemont.

This year's captain is Garv Doran, who hails from Overbrook Country Club and plans to play golf year-round next year at the University of South Florida. Doran is quick in pointing out that Mr. Jones and assistant Mr. Ott have been indispensable and very helpful. "Mr. Jones puts up with a lot but has really been an inspiration to us all," said Doran. He later added "We all have a hell of a good time!"

BASEBALL (5-5)

Lower Merion	W 7-5
Ridley	L 2-4

GOLF (4-1)

TENNIS (2-4)

Ridley	W 7-0
Radnor	L 1-6

TRACK (2-4)

Ridley	L 68-82
Haverford	W 80-70

RUGBY (2-2)

Bonner	L 6-13
South Jersey	W 12-4
Conestoga	W 28-6

LACROSSE (2-6)

Springfield	L 5-4
Ridley	L 10-4

GIRLS TENNIS (7-0)

Conestoga	W 3-2
Ridley	W 5-0
Radnor	W 4-1

GIRLS TRACK (3-3-1)

Ridley	W 60½-35½
Haverford	L 40-56

SOFTBALL

West Chester	W 28-4
Radnor	W 49-1

SPORT SHORTS

Softballers Outscore Opponents 152-38

In their first six games of the season, Marple Girl Softballers have out-scored opponents, 152-38.

Jeanne Peterson represented the Central League in the Girls District Singles Tennis Tournament at Lionville High School in Lionville, Pa. This was the first time a Marple Newtown player ever was a representative at the District level.

MN trackmen who have qualified for districts at Norristown this year are sprinters Steve Michaels and Paul Sperry, jumpers Jeff Carruthers and Mark Grothman, two-miler Jim Clelland, miler Bruce Reminger, hurdler Dave Chaunudet and pole vaulter Tom Wilson.

Girls Tennis Nets Victories

If all goes according to plan, the Girls Tennis Team should win their first-ever Central League Championship. The girls' optimism was generated by their 3-2 victory over Conestoga on April 29. Conestoga and Marple were considered the only two teams in the running for the title this year. All remaining games this year are merely incidentals in the way of a

clean sweep of the Central League.

The Conestoga match was truly the high point of the season; a closer match Marple's girls have never seen. The Tigress' second doubles team of Ann Rotoloni and Sue Lapowsky won, as did number two seed, Tracy Tooke. Conestoga took the number one singles and doubles, thus resting the match on the number three

seeded singles player, B McCormick.

Ms. McCormick and Conestoga girl split sets and the third went to 6-4. A nine point tie breaker therefore would decide the match and indirectly the Tennis Title. With the tie breaker tied at 4-4, McCormick's opponent double faulted, thus giving Marple its victory.



Jeanne Peterson who represented MN at District Competition shown serving.

GOING PLACES

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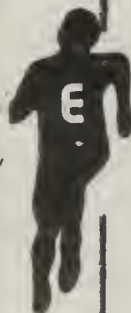
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